

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated August 23, 2006.

Claims 1-23 were pending in the original application. In the Office Action, claims 1-23 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1-17 were cancelled and claims 24-46 were added. Claims 24-46 now remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 24-46 are in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Williams et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0015623).

Claims 1-23 were cancelled from the application therefore the above rejections are considered moot.

Applicant, however, now submits that the new independent claims (claims 24, 32 and 40) are patentable over Williams.

Applicant's independent claim 24 recites:

“A method for effectively and efficiently identifying violations of privacy and security and guidelines in an information system, comprising the steps of:

- a. providing vulnerability data having universal definitions applicable to different computing systems;
- b. providing regulation data relating to a particular set of regulations;
- c. providing priority data relating to a list of vulnerabilities prioritized in a specific order;
- d. providing keywords that are common to the vulnerability, regulation and priority data;

- e. searching for the keywords in the vulnerability, regulation and priority data;
- f. creating relational data based upon the searching step, the relational data establishes a specific relationship between the vulnerability, regulation and priority data;
- g. determining a computer configuration for a target to be tested;
- h. customizing a screening process for the target using the computer configuration found in the determining step;
- i. testing for vulnerability violations in the target based upon the customized screening process;
- k. determining, according to the vulnerability violations, which regulation data applies to which vulnerability data and the priority of the vulnerability violations; and
- l. creating a prioritized report corresponding to the vulnerability violations and the regulations that apply to the vulnerability violations.”

Claims 32 and 40 contain similar limitations.

Williams does not disclose, among other things, (1) determining a computer configuration for a target to be tested, (2) customizing a screening process for the target using the computer configuration found in the determining step and (3) testing for vulnerability violations in the target based upon the customized screening process.

Since Williams does not (1) determining a computer configuration for a target to be tested, (2) customizing a screening process for the target using the computer configuration found in the determining step and (3) testing for vulnerability violations in the target based upon the customized screening process, Applicant believes that independent claims 24, 32 and 40 are patentable over Williams on at least this basis.

Claims 25-31 depend on claim 24. Since claim 24 is believed to be patentable over Williams, claims 25-31 are believed to be patentable over Williams on the basis of their dependency on claim 24.

Claims 33-39 depend on claim 32. Since claim 32 is believed to be patentable over Williams, claims 33-39 are believed to be patentable over Williams on the basis of their dependency on claim 32.

Claims 41-46 depend on claim 40. Since claim 40 is believed to be patentable over Williams, claims 41-46 are believed to be patentable over Williams on the basis of their dependency on claim 40.

CONCLUSION

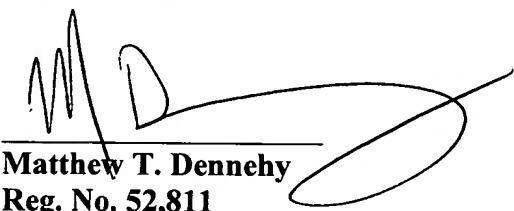
Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims (Claims 24-46) now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

A check in the amount of \$225.00 is enclosed covering a two-month, extension-of-time fee.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 06-0515.

Respectfully submitted,


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